

Grand Canyon

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Canyon National Park
Arizona



The Guide

South Rim: December 1, 2010–February 28, 2011

Also available in Deutsch, Español, Français,
Italiano, 日本語, 中文, 한국어



View from Mather Point, NPS photo by Michael Quinn

Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park

The Grand Canyon we visit today is a gift from past generations. Take time to enjoy this gift. Sit and watch the changing play of light and shadows. Wander along a trail and feel the sunshine and wind on your face. Follow the antics of the ravens soaring above the rim. Can you hear the river roaring in the gorge far below? We must ensure that future generations have the opportunity to form connections with this inspiring landscape.

A few suggestions may make your visit more rewarding. The information in this publication will answer many of your questions about the South Rim. Stop by a visitor center and talk with a ranger. Participate in a ranger-led activity. Save gas and frustration; park your vehicle and ride the free shuttles. Watch a sunrise or sunset. Walk out at night to enjoy the star-filled sky or the moon-lit canyon. Hike into the canyon and progress backward in geologic time. May you form memories that last a lifetime.



Watch for Construction

Construction continues in the Mather Point and Grand Canyon Visitor Center area. Projects to be completed during the next year include a theater attached to the visitor center, new outdoor displays in the visitor center plaza, a wheelchair accessible trail to Mather Point, and a shuttle bus stop at the west side of Mather Point. Please be extra cautious when you are in these areas.

For Answers to Your Questions About...

MAPS Finding your way around the South Rim can be confusing, especially with the many changes that have taken place over the last few years. Maps of roads and facilities are on pages 8–9 and 16. Be aware that some GPS devices do not accurately direct you to locations on the South Rim.

VISITOR CENTERS At many visitor centers you can ask a ranger your questions and for help planning your visit. Displays explain many facets of the story of Grand Canyon. A list of visitor centers and open hours is on page 4.

FREE SHUTTLE BUSES The white buses with a green stripe provide the easiest way around the Grand Canyon Village area. The centerfold, pages 8–9, shows routes, stops, and operating hours. Additional information on riding the free shuttle buses is found on page 4.

HIKING An enjoyable way to experience the canyon is to walk one of its trails. For hiking information, from a casual stroll along the rim to a multiday hike into the canyon, see pages 6–7. Special winter hiking suggestions are on page 11.

RANGER PROGRAMS Want to learn more about Grand Canyon? Participate in a ranger program. Walks and talks, are scheduled throughout the day. Choose an activity or two from those described on pages 2–3.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET Any viewpoint along the rim provides an opportunity to enjoy the drama and beauty of sunrise or sunset. Arrive an hour or more before sunset or stay for a while after sunrise to experience the play of colors and shadows in the canyon. Sunrise and sunset times are given on page 4.

HUNGRY? TIRED? Restaurants, lodging, campgrounds, gift stores, and other visitor services are listed on pages 14–15.

This publication contains information to plan your visit and answers to many of your questions. Please take time to read *The Guide*.

Look inside for information on:

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**Use Caution
near the
Edge**

**Footing can be dangerous.
Watch for snow and ice.**

Emergency: 911

**24 hours-a-day dial
911 from any phone
9-911 from hotel phones**















**Thinking of
Hiking?
See pages 6–7
and 11**

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Ranger Programs

During your visit the National Park Service encourages you to participate in the programs listed below. All programs are free.

Grand Canyon Village

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
People and the Canyon: Past, Present, and Future  				
For thousands of years, humans have been part of Grand Canyon. Join park staff outside of Verkamp's Visitor Center to take a look at the history of the South Rim area. Programs may include a walk around the village historic district or a talk inside, if the weather is poor. Parking in the nearby lot may be limited. Ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Train Depot stop.	Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	9:00 a.m.	45 minutes	Daily
Fireside Chat  				
Join a park ranger in front of a warm fire and learn about the many facets of Grand Canyon. Topics may include geology, wildlife, native plants, native cultures, current research and more. Have a question? This is a great venue to ask a ranger and gain a deeper understanding of the rich scientific and cultural history of this park. Arrive by walking, parking in Lot A, or riding the free Village Shuttle Bus to the Shrine of the Ages stop.	Park Headquarters , Parking Lot A	10:00 a.m.	30 –45 minutes	Daily
		3:30 p.m.	30 –45 minutes	Sunday
Stories in Stone: Introduction to Grand Canyon's Geology  				
Why is the Grand Canyon so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here in the world? Come and participate in this fascinating talk to learn how Grand Canyon was formed. Arrive by riding the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus to The Yavapai Geology Museum stop or park in the nearby parking areas.	Inside Yavapai Geology Museum	10:00 a.m.	30 –45 minutes	Daily
Rim to River: Plants and Animals of Grand Canyon  				
Come explore the natural history of Grand Canyon. Learn about the plants and animals that live in the many life zones from river to rim. Learn to look for clues to what is around you during your visit. In nice weather you may venture out for a short walk to see and experience nature. In inclement weather, learn about the plants and animals from the warmth of the visitor center by examining clues nature has left behind. Park in the adjacent lots, walk the Greenway Trail, or ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center stop.	Inside Grand Canyon Visitor Center	12:30 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
A Photographer's Dream: A Tour of Historic Kolb Studio (by reservation only)				
Kolb Studio, built in 1904, spills five levels down the canyon wall. The Kolb brothers played an integral role in the early years of development at Grand Canyon. From the studio they photographed countless visitors as they began their mule trips. Join a ranger for a closer look at Kolb Studio and the fascinating time in which the Kolb family lived. Limited to 12 participants. Register at Kolb Studio for the tour prior to that day's program or by calling (928) 638-2771.	Kolb Studio	2:00 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
Geo-Glimpse  				
Wondering how Grand Canyon came to be? Enjoy this short introductory talk to learn about the geology of Grand Canyon, while you explore the Yavapai Geology Museum. Parking may be available at Yavapai Point or plan to arrive by the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus to the Yavapai Geology Museum. Consider walking along the Trail of Time following the program.	Inside Yavapai Geology Museum	3:00 p.m.	15–20 minutes	Daily
Grand Canyon Details: An In-depth Look at Nature and History  				
A perfect way to end your day of exploring. As the darkness of night comes early in the winter months, join a park ranger to learn more about the canyon's fascinating natural and cultural history. From the warmth of this beautiful auditorium, dig deeper into the canyon's amazing resources and stories. For this day's topic check the schedules posted around the park. Consider taking the short walk to the rim following the program to enjoy a winter sunset. Arrive by walking, driving or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Shrine of the Ages stop.	Shrine of the Ages auditorium, Parking Lot A	3:30 p.m.	1 hour	Monday through Saturday
Additional Programs in the Grand Canyon Village Area				
As staffing permits, rangers will present additional programs and activities such as a Discovery Program, Rim Walk, Mather Point Talk, a Moon Walk, or a Star Talk. Watch for program announcements posted at visitor centers, Park Headquarters, and other park facilities.	Locations vary	Varies	Varies	Varies

We hope that learning more about Grand Canyon National Park and its resources will lead to a greater appreciation of your national park.

Desert View and Tusayan Museum

Glimpses of the Past



Have you ever wondered what life was like at Grand Canyon 800 years ago? How did people find food, water, and shelter? Join a ranger to explore the remains of an ancestral Puebloan village. Envision a thriving community in this harsh and demanding environment. Program includes a journey on a 0.1 mile (0.2 km) flat, paved trail.

Tusayan Museum, 3 miles
(5 km) west of Desert View

11:00 a.m.
and
1:30 p.m.

30–45
minutes

Daily

Children must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.



These family-oriented programs are ideal for meeting the ranger program requirement for the Grand Canyon's Junior Ranger award. Any ranger program, however, will meet the requirement on page 2 of the Junior Ranger Activity Booklet.



All outdoor programs may be canceled during rain, snow, or lightning storms.



These programs are wheelchair accessible with assistance. Wheelchairs may be checked out at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center free of charge.

Special Programs

Historic Kolb Studio Art Exhibits

Grand Canyon's Green Heart: The Unsung Legacy of Plants

December 10, 2010 – February 22, 2011

Best known for its grand vistas and geologic wonders, Grand Canyon also nurtures more plants than any other national park, and nearly half of all the plants that occur in Arizona. Often beautiful, sometimes treacherous, plants achieve the extraordinary feat of transforming sunlight into food, thus serving as the basis for all animal life on Earth.



This exhibition is an introduction to the fascinating world of canyon plants, the botanists who have studied and protected them, and a celebration of the art of botanical illustration.

Kolb Studio is open daily 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Exhibits are free and open to the public. Kolb Studio exhibits are sponsored by the Grand Canyon Association.

Artist-in-Residence Program

Few places have provoked as much wonder and creativity as Grand Canyon. Grand Canyon National Park hosts two Artist-in-Residence (AiR) programs – a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Artists of all genre, selected through a formal jury process, are awarded three-week residencies. During their time at the canyon, each artist or collaborative group presents programs for visitors and has focused studio time to pursue their projects.

December: Painter/fabric installation/print maker Rachel Wilson; Flagstaff, Arizona. While in-residence, Rachel will be working with the local school children on projects influenced by the geology and cultures of the Southwest.

January: creative non-fiction writer/photographer and environmental artist Pamela Petro; Northampton, Massachusetts. Pamela will present evening programs that include both images of her visual art, as well as readings from her essays.

February: Cellist Rhonda Rider; Boston, Massachusetts. Rhonda has collaborated with nine composers on cello pieces influenced by Grand Canyon. During her residency, Rhonda will premier these works in a very special evening concert on February 26th.

All workshops and presentations are free, family-friendly and open to the public. Please check at any visitor center for information on dates, locations and times of AiR programs.



Want to know more?

For more information about the Artist-in-Residence program, please visit our web site:

www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm

Enjoying the South Rim

Visitor Centers See pages 2–3 for ranger programs presented at these locations. A passport cancellation stamp is available in all these facilities.



Kolb Studio

Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Located in the Village Historic District at the Bright Angel Trailhead, Kolb Studio is the restored home and business of the Kolb brothers, pioneering photographers at Grand Canyon. Visit the free art exhibit in the auditorium (see page 3) and shop in the bookstore.



Verkamp's Visitor Center

Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

This rim-side visitor center resides in one of the oldest buildings in Grand Canyon Village. Operated as a curio shop for more than 100 years by the Verkamp family, the building now features displays telling the history of the South Rim and a Grand Canyon Association bookstore.



Yavapai Geology Museum

Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

How old is the canyon? How did it form? The exhibits at Yavapai Geology Museum answer these and other geology questions. The historic building, located one mile (1.6 km) east of Market Plaza, features expansive canyon views. The bookstore offers a variety of materials about the area.



Grand Canyon Visitor Center

Grand Canyon Visitor Center open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Books and More bookstore open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The new parking areas allow for easy access to Grand Canyon Visitor Center and Mather Point. Ride the free Village Route or Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle buses to other points on the South Rim. You may view the outdoor exhibits anytime. **Walk carefully around the construction in the visitor center and Mather Point areas.**



Tusayan Ruin and Museum

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A visit provides a glimpse into the rich heritage of past and present cultures. Displays represent the last 10,000 years—a Paleo-Indian projectile point, split-twig figurines of the Desert Archaic people, artifacts from the ancestral Puebloans, and art from contemporary tribes. The museum is located three miles (5 km) west of Desert View. Free admission.



Desert View Visitor Center

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

How does the canyon inspire you? Explore how this magnificent landscape has inspired artists, writers, musicians, and conservationists. Support the park with a purchase in the Grand Canyon Association bookstore.

Canyon's Best Bargain: The Free Shuttle Bus System

For more than 30 years the National Park Service has provided a free shuttle bus system on the South Rim. The buses use compressed or liquefied natural gas, a clean burning fuel. Buses have provisions for improved accessibility and can accommodate most wheelchairs. All shuttles have racks for bicycles. Riding the shuttles makes your stay more enjoyable, while reducing pollution and decreasing traffic congestion.



How do I use the shuttles?

The map on pages 8–9 is the key. The map shows routes, stops, operating times, and route lengths. Park your vehicle in one of the parking areas, proceed to the nearest bus stop, and board the next bus. The buses come by every 10–20 minutes. You do not need to obtain a ticket, and you are free to get on or off at any stop. You can ride to a stop, enjoy the view, shop at a gift store, or walk along the rim, then hop on a later shuttle.

Where do the shuttles go?

Two shuttle routes operate during the winter—the Village Route and the Kaibab/Rim Route. The routes do not overlap, although they interconnect. Buses show the route name on the front and display an appropriately colored square near the door.

Village Route (blue)

This loop connects visitor centers, lodging, restaurants, gift shops, and campgrounds. It provides the best means to get to many of the ranger programs.

Kaibab/Rim Route (orange)

This is a figure-eight shaped route centered on the Grand Canyon Visitor Center. The west loop stops at Mather Point and Yavapai Geology Museum, before returning to the visitor center. The east loop serves the South Kaibab Trailhead, Yaki Point, and Pipe Creek Vista.

This is an excellent route for canyon viewpoints and the eastern sections of the Rim Trail. This is the only way to get to the South Kaibab Trail, as the Yaki Point Road is closed to private vehicles.

Sunrise & Sunset

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
December 1	7:21 a.m.	5:14 p.m.
December 5	7:24 a.m.	5:14 p.m.
December 12	7:30 a.m.	5:15 p.m.
December 19	7:34 a.m.	5:17 p.m.
December 26	7:38 a.m.	5:21 p.m.
January 2	7:39 a.m.	5:26 p.m.
January 9	7:40 a.m.	5:32 p.m.
January 16	7:38 a.m.	5:39 p.m.
January 23	7:35 a.m.	5:46 p.m.
January 30	7:31 a.m.	5:53 p.m.
February 6	7:25 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
February 13	7:18 a.m.	6:08 p.m.
February 20	7:10 a.m.	6:15 p.m.
February 27	7:02 a.m.	6:21 p.m.

Moon Phases

New moon	Full moon	Moon rise
December 5		
	December 20	4:52 p.m.
January 4		
	January 19	5:54 p.m.
February 2		
	February 17	5:52 p.m.

All times are Mountain Standard Time.

Enjoying the South Rim

Planning Your Grand Canyon Experience

Individual interests, available time, and the weather can influence your visit. Use the information in this publication and talk with a ranger in one of the visitor centers to help make your Grand Canyon experience memorable.

If you have only an hour or two

Go to one of the viewpoints such as Mather, Yavapai, or Yaki Points and immerse yourself in the view. Walk a short distance along the Rim Trail and watch the changing patterns of light and shadow in the canyon. Can you decipher the animal tracks left in the snow?

If you have half a day

Stop at one of the visitor centers and learn more about the geology or history of the area by participating in a free ranger program or walking along the Trail of Time. Drive Hermit Road to Hermits Rest, stopping at the numerous pull-offs to enjoy the view. Hopi Point is a favorite for sunset.

If you have all day

Walk a short distance down the Bright Angel or South Kaibab Trails, keeping in mind that these trails may be very icy. Drive east on Desert View Drive, enjoying the overlooks along the way and stopping at Tusayan Museum and the Desert View Watchtower. Walk around Tusayan Ruin and picture living here when central heating meant a fireplace in the middle of the room. Help your children attain their Junior Ranger badge (see article to right).

If you have two or more days

The canyon is yours to enjoy and explore. Arise early (not so very early in winter) and take in a sunrise. Venture away from the popular viewpoints and find a protected spot to experience the quiet of the canyon. If the weather is wintry, warm up by the fireplace in Verkamp's Visitor Center or enjoy the view from inside Yavapai Geology Museum. Attend several ranger-led activities. Step out at night to experience a truly dark sky illuminated by countless stars.



Environmental Education

Class Trips, Summer Camps, and Teacher Workshops

The Environmental Education staff invites teachers and students to take advantage of our free educational programs. We offer nine ranger-led field trip programs at the canyon covering geology, ecology, and history topics. The field trips, suitable for grades K–7, address Arizona and national academic standards. Rangers also visit classrooms and present two-way video conferencing. The National Park Service presents low-cost teacher workshops including walk-throughs of the field trips and classroom lesson plans. Contact (928) 638-7931 or www.nps.gov/grca/forteachers/ for more information.

High school youth summer camps Participants hike the canyon, ride river rapids, and join park rangers for service projects. For a description of the camps: www.nps.gov/grca/forkids/camp.htm. For registration, visit Grand Canyon Youth: www.gcyyouth.org.



Trail of Time: Walk Billions of Years

Standing at a viewpoint and gazing into the canyon, it is difficult to appreciate the immensity of the landscape. Even more challenging is comprehending the concept of deep geologic time

The Trail of Time attempts to convert intangible time to footsteps along the rim. For most of the interpretive trail, each meter along the rim, marked by a bronze dot, represents a million years in time. A small plaque (left) marks ten million year intervals.



You can walk forward or backward in time! Begin just west of Yavapai Geology Museum to walk from today toward Grand Canyon's oldest rocks, Elves Chasm gneiss (1,840 million years old). Or, begin east of Verkamp's Visitor Center and walk forward in time toward the youngest rock, Kaibab limestone (270 million years old). Kaibab limestone forms the cap rock of the rim. Moving through time on the trail, you remain solidly grounded on this resistant layer.

As you explore along the Trail of Time, touch rock samples from deep within Grand Canyon, use viewing tubes to focus on geologic features below the rim, learn about the geologic processes that formed the rocks of the canyon walls, and ponder the magnificent depth and scale of Grand Canyon.

Pets Must Be Leashed at All Times

Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails throughout the developed areas of the South Rim, but not below the rim. The only exception

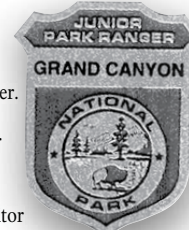
is service animals. Persons wishing to take a service animal below the rim must check in first at the Backcountry Information Center.

Kennels are available. Telephone: (928) 638-0534.



Would you like to be a Junior Ranger?

The National Park Service offers a Junior Ranger program for children ages 4 and older.



Pick up a *Junior Ranger Activity Book* at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, Verkamp's Visitor Center, or Tusayan Museum information desk and complete the activities listed for the appropriate age level.

Once completed (don't forget attendance at one or more ranger programs) bring the booklet back to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, Verkamp's Visitor Center, or Tusayan Museum to receive an official Junior Ranger certificate and badge.

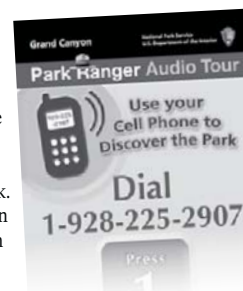
Cell Phone Tour

Your cell phone provides another way to learn more about Grand Canyon National Park. You can listen to a narration over your cell phone at numerous

points of interest on the South Rim between Maricopa and Yaki Points.

Wherever you see a cell phone tour sign, dial (928) 225-2907 and enter the indicated stop number. You will hear an interpretive ranger give a two-minute synopsis on various aspects of the canyon from geology to Native American history to the night sky.

There is no additional charge to listen to these messages. Please be aware that cell phone coverage can be spotty and not all providers offer service in the park.



Day Hiking



Before You Go . . .

Plan Ahead

As a day hiker no permits are required. You are entirely on your own. Your descent into the canyon, however brief, marks your entry into a world in which preparation, self-reliance, and common sense are crucial.

Winter Weather

On the South Rim, snow storms, blustery winds, and freezing temperatures occur throughout the winter. At the lower elevation of Phantom Ranch, rain can make your visit miserable, if you are not prepared. Learn the weather forecast. Hope for sunny skies, but prepare for the worst conditions.

Double Your Calories, Double Your Fun

Salty snacks and water or sports drinks should be consumed on any hike lasting longer than 30 minutes. Food is your body's primary source of fuel and salts (electrolytes) while hiking in the canyon.

If you do not balance your food intake with your fluid consumption, you run the risk of becoming dangerously debilitated and severely ill. For every hour hiking in the canyon, you should drink ½ to 1 quart (liter) of water or sports drinks.

Your best defense against illness and exhaustion is to eat a large breakfast, a full lunch, a snack every time you take a drink, and a rewarding full dinner at the end of the day. This is not a time to diet.

Watch Your Time

Plan on taking twice as long to hike up as it took to hike down. Allow 1/3 of your time to descend and 2/3 of your time to ascend.

Mules and Hikers

Encounters between hikers and mules have resulted in injuries to packers and the death of some mules. To ensure safety for yourself, other trail users, and mule riders, when encountering mules on the trails:

- Step off the trail on the uphill side away from the edge.
- Follow the directions of the wrangler. Remain quiet and stand perfectly still.
- Do not return to the trail until the last mule is 50 feet (15 m) past your position.

Hiking Tips

- 1 Be Prepared:** Know the weather forecast. Winter weather changes quickly. Know your route. Carry a map, flashlight, and extra clothing including wind and rain protection. Instep crampons may be necessary on icy trails.
- 2 Stay Comfortable:** Dressing in layers is the key to comfortable hiking. Do not forget your hat. It is important to stay dry and protected from the wind.
- 3 Go Slowly:** If you can carry on a conversation, you are hiking at the right pace. If you find yourself out of breath, your legs and digestive system are not getting enough oxygen which may lead to fatigue, heavy legs, and exhaustion.
- 4 Rest Often:** Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 10-minute break at least once every hour.
- 5 Eat and Drink Frequently:** Balance your food and water intake. Salty snacks help replace electrolytes lost through perspiration. Snack every time you drink. Food and water supply the extra energy needed for winter hiking.

Hiking Chart for some popular day hike destinations

Warning! National Park Service rangers recommend that you do not attempt to hike from the rim to the river and back in one day, because of the distance, high canyon temperatures, low humidity, and steepness of the trails.

Few trails form loops; you will be hiking on the same trail in both directions.

You are responsible for the safety of yourself and those in your party!

Trails

Rim Trail (mostly flat, many sections suitable for wheelchairs)

	Destination	Round trip distance	Approximate time round trip	Elevation change	Notes
The Rim Trail offers easy walking and quiet views as it winds along the rim from Hermits Rest east to South Kaibab Trailhead. Begin from any viewpoint and use the free shuttle buses to return.	Follows the rim for 13 miles/21 km	Your choice	15 minutes to half-a-day	200 feet 60 m	Mostly paved, except dirt from Monument Creek Vista east to Maricopa Point

Bright Angel Trail (steep, but popular)

The most popular trail into the canyon begins west of Bright Angel Lodge. Water available at Indian Garden and Plateau Point (subject to line breaks). Upper portion of the trail may be extremely icy. Use crampons for safe walking.	1 ½-Mile Resthouse	3 miles 4.8 km	2–4 hours	1,131 feet 345 m	Rest rooms No water in winter
	3-Mile Resthouse	6 miles 9.6 km	4–6 hours	2,112 feet 644 m	Rest rooms No water in winter
	Indian Garden	9.2 miles 14.8 km	6–9 hours	3,060 feet 933 m	Rest rooms Water year-round
Plateau Point is extremely strenuous.					
	Plateau Point	12.2 miles 19.6 km	8–12 hours	3,195 feet 974 m	Water year-round View of river

South Kaibab Trail (steep with expansive views)

Trail begins south of Yaki Point; you must ride the free shuttle bus to the trailhead. Best views for a relatively short hike, but no water. Upper portion of the trail may be extremely icy. Use crampons for safe walking.	Ooh Aah Point	1.8 miles 2.9 km	1–2 hours	600 feet 180 m	No water First view east
	Cedar Ridge	3 miles 4.8 km	2–4 hours	1,140 feet 347 m	Rest rooms No water
	Skeleton Point	6 miles 9.7 km	4–6 hours	2,040 feet 622 m	No water Second hitching rail



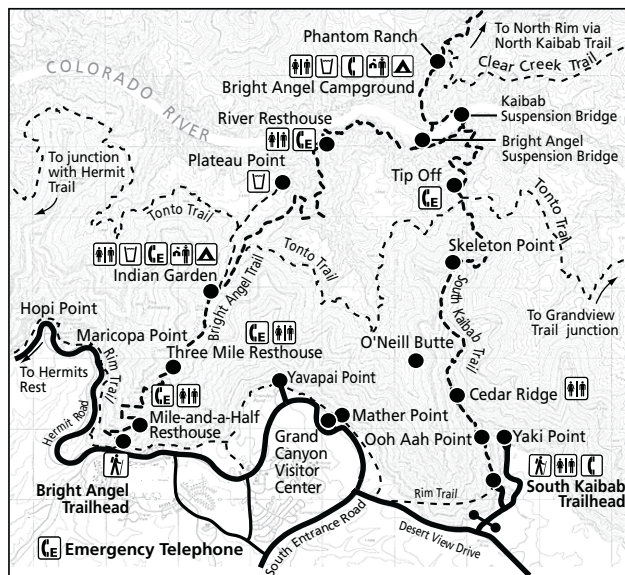
The **Hikers' Express** runs directly from the Bright Angel Lodge shuttle bus stop, the Backcountry Information Center, and Grand Canyon Visitor Center to the South Kaibab Trailhead daily:
December, January, and February: 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Hermit Trail (steep and rocky)

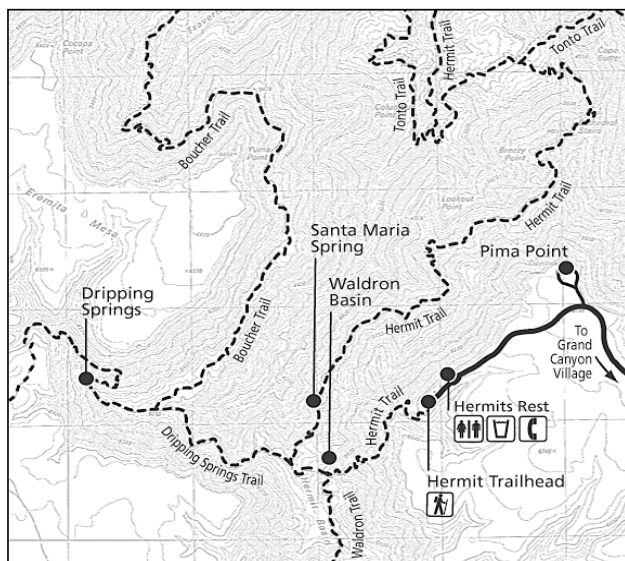
This rough, unmaintained trail starts 500 feet (150 m) west of Hermits Rest. Recommended for experienced desert hikers. Hiking boots recommended. Water from springs must be treated. This trail may have less ice and snow, but still may be treacherous.	Waldron Basin	3 miles 4.8 km	2–4 hours	1,240 feet 380 m	No water, little shade
	Santa Maria Spring	5 miles 8 km	4–6 hours	1,760 feet 540 m	Treat water
	Dripping Springs	7 miles 11 km	5–7 hours	1,400 feet 430 m	Treat water Narrow trail

Hiking and Camping Below the Rim

Corridor Trails: Bright Angel and South Kaibab



Hermit Trail



Backpacking Permits

Backcountry Information Center
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
(928) 638-7875 Phones answered only
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday
www.nps.gov/grca/

Overnight backpacking in Grand Canyon provides a degree of solitude, wildness, and silence that is increasingly difficult to find. A backcountry permit is required for all overnight backpacking, except for guests of Phantom Ranch. Permits can be reserved up to four months in advance. A fee of \$10.00 per permit plus \$5.00 per person per night is collected. The permit program helps to limit impacts to the natural resource while providing a greater degree of solitude for hikers.

Individuals arriving without a permit may be able to obtain one through a daily waiting list. Inquire early in the morning at the Backcountry Information Center, open daily 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, pick up a *Trip Planner* at the Backcountry Information Center or any NPS visitor center.

Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships. While enjoying your visit, please consider the following principles to minimize your impact and help protect Grand Canyon for future generations.

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Minimize campfire impacts
No campfires in Grand Canyon National Park backcountry.
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of other visitors

For more information: www.LNT.org

Health Hazards

Winter conditions present special challenges. Please read the article on page 11. Icy trail conditions may require traction aids such as instep crampons or hiking poles.

Moderation is the key to having an enjoyable hike. Hike within your ability, maintain proper body temperature, balance your food and water intake, and rest often. Emergency situations include:

Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a life-threatening emergency where the body cannot keep itself warm due to exhaustion and exposure to cold, wet, windy weather.

Symptoms: uncontrolled shivering, poor muscle control, and a careless attitude

Treatment: put on dry clothing, drink warm liquids, and protect from wind, rain, and cold.

Hyponatremia

Hyponatremia is an illness that mimics the early symptoms of heat exhaustion. It is the result of low sodium in the blood caused by drinking too much water, not eating enough salty foods, and losing salt through sweating.

Symptoms: nausea, vomiting, altered mental states, and frequent urination

Treatment: have the victim rest and eat salty foods. If mental alertness decreases, seek immediate help!

Heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is the result of dehydration due to intense sweating. Hikers can lose one to two quarts (liters) of water per hour. Rangers at both Phantom Ranch and Indian Garden treat as many as twenty cases of heat exhaustion a day in summer.

Symptoms: pale face, nausea, cool and moist skin, headache, and cramps

Treatment: drink water, eat high-energy foods, rest in the shade, cool the body

Heat stroke

Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency where the body's heat-regulating mechanisms become overwhelmed by a combination of internal heat production and environmental demands. Every year two to three Grand Canyon hikers experience heat stroke.

Symptoms: flushed face, dry skin, weak and rapid pulse, high body temperature, poor judgment or inability to cope, unconsciousness. Victim is in danger!

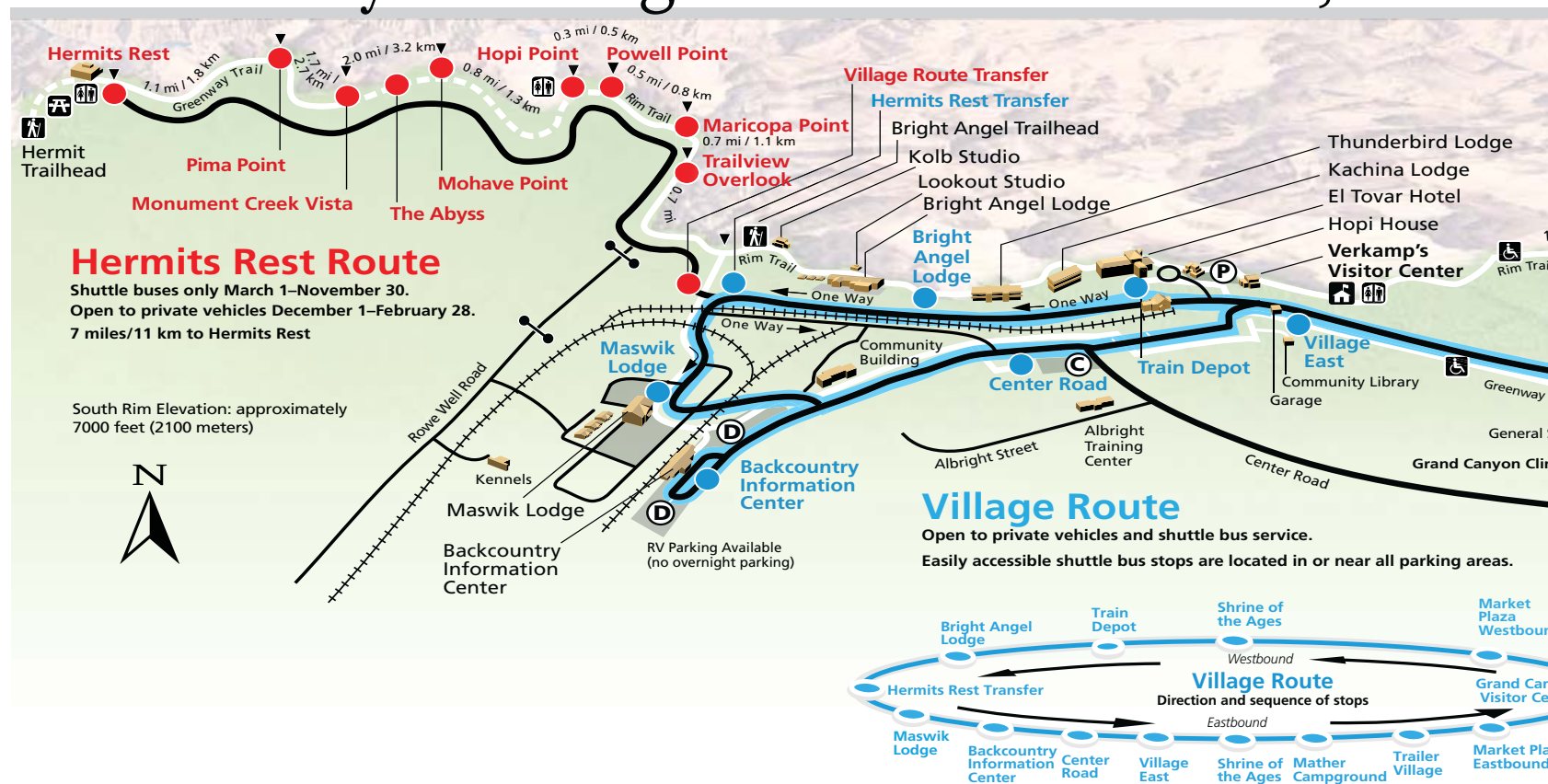
Treatment: find shade, cool victim with water, send for help!

Want to know more?

Grand Canyon Association bookstores offer many books and maps on hiking. Bookstore hours and locations are listed on page 4. A few items to consider include:

- *Official Guide to Hiking Grand Canyon*, Scott Thybony
- The Grand Canyon Trail Guides series: Bright Angel, Grandview, Havasu, Hermit, North Kaibab, South Kaibab, South and North Bass
- Grand Canyon National Park Trails topographic map

Grand Canyon Village Shuttle Bus Routes, Points



Free Shuttle Buses

Free shuttle buses operate on two routes on the South Rim during the winter—Village Route (blue), and Kaibab/Rim Route (orange). The routes interconnect, but do not overlap. No tickets are required, and bus stops are clearly marked throughout the park by signs with the above symbol.

Buses are white with a green stripe and display the route name on the front.

All buses are equipped with bicycle racks. Bicycle one way and ride the shuttle the other.

Pets are not permitted on buses.

Service may be suspended during inclement weather.



Hermits Rest Route

The Hermits Rest Route does not operate during the winter. Hermit Road is open to all vehicles during December, January, and February.

This narrow road winds seven miles (11 km) past numerous overlooks to Hermits Rest. It may be closed during inclement weather. Watch for hikers and bicyclists along the road.

No shuttle bus service on Hermit Road from December through February.



Village Route

Buses provide transportation between Grand Canyon Visitor Center, hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, parking lots, and other facilities in the Village area. This is not a scenic route, but rim views are available a short walk from many stops.

60 minutes round-trip
(without getting off bus)

December–February buses run every:

30 minutes 6:15 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
15 minutes 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
30 minutes 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Kaibab/Rim Route

Buses provide transportation between Grand Canyon Visitor Center, Yavapai Geology Museum, South Kaibab Trailhead, and rim viewpoints. This is the shortest scenic route and the only access to Yaki Point.

50 minutes round-trip
(without getting off bus)

December–February buses run every:
15 minutes 6:15 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.

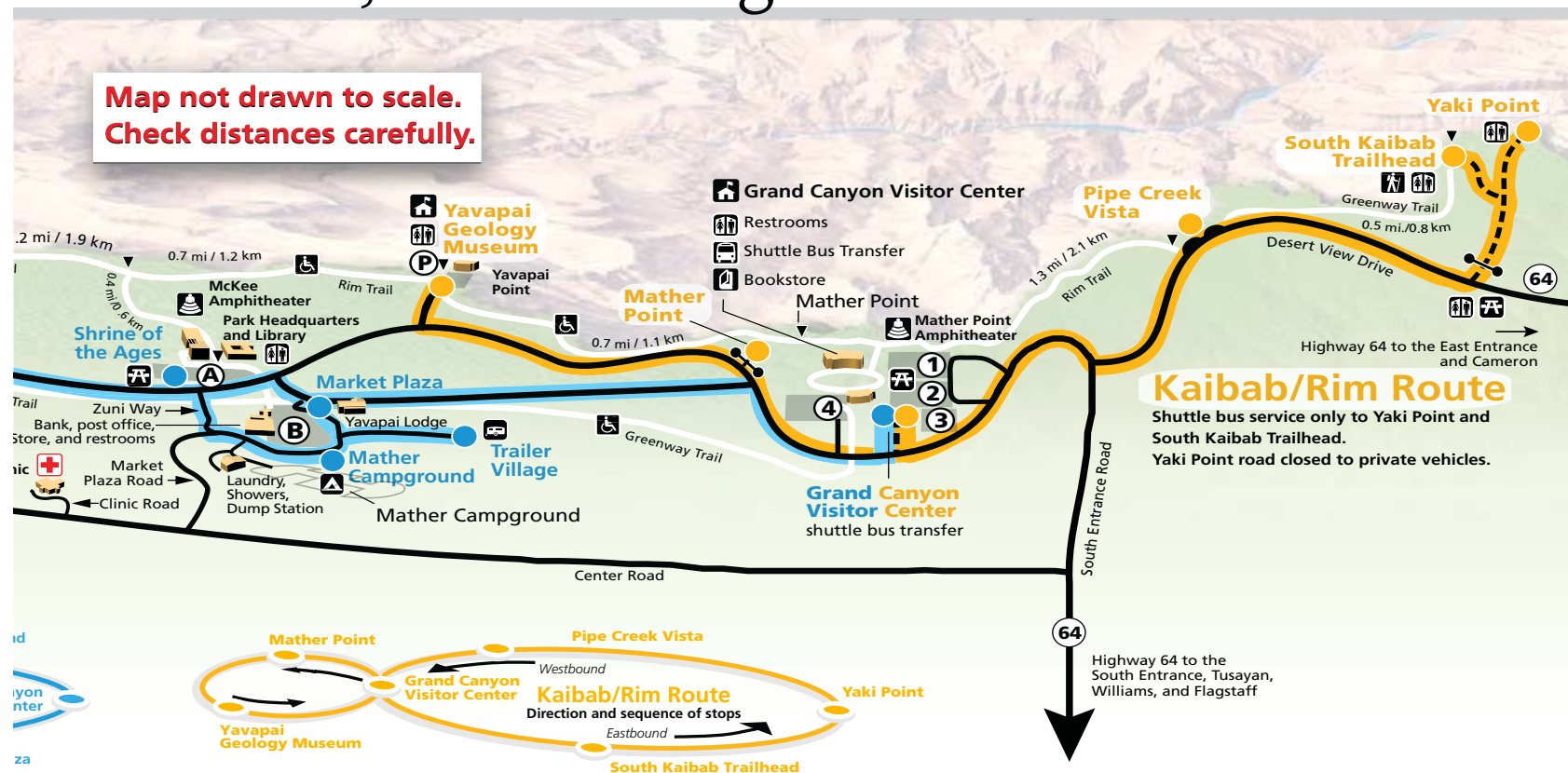


Hikers' Express

An early morning bus leaves daily from the Bright Angel Lodge, Backcountry Information Center, and Grand Canyon Visitor Center shuttle bus stops and goes directly to the South Kaibab Trailhead at:

December–February: 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

of Interest, and Parking



Rules of the Road



Motorist Warning: Pedestrians have the right of way. Vehicles must stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.



Pedestrian Warning: Avoid walking on narrow park roads. Use trails that parallel most park roads. Always face traffic.



Bicyclist Warning: Bicycles are permitted on all paved and unpaved park roads and the Greenway Trails. They are prohibited on all other trails, including the **Rim Trail**. Bicyclists must obey all traffic regulations. Always ride single file with the flow of the traffic. Wear bright colors and a helmet.

On the narrow Hermit Road bicyclists should pull to the right shoulder of the road and dismount when large vehicles are attempting to pass. Never hang onto a shuttle bus while riding.

Parking

Location of the lots is indicated on the map above. Avoid parking along the roadside except where signs or lines on the road indicate that it is permissible.

- ① to ④ Ample lots surround Grand Canyon Visitor Center. RV parking in Lot 1.
- Ⓐ Near Park Headquarters. Large lot that frequently has available spots.
- Ⓑ Near the businesses in Market Plaza.
- Ⓒ This small lot near the intersection of Center and Village Loop Roads offers parking near the historic village district.
- Ⓓ Surrounds the Backcountry Information Center. The southern portion of this lot has large, pull-through spaces for RVs and vehicles with trailers.



Accessibility

An accessibility permit, allowing access to some areas closed to public traffic, is available at entrance gates, visitor centers, Park Headquarters, Kolb Studio, El Tovar Concierge Desk, and the Bright Angel Lodge, Yavapai Lodge, and Maswik Lodge Transportation Desks.

Day-Use Wheelchairs

The National Park Service provides wheelchairs at no charge at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center.

Shuttle Buses

The free shuttle buses accommodate most wheelchairs with ramps for easy access. Buses can be lowered to make getting on and off easier.

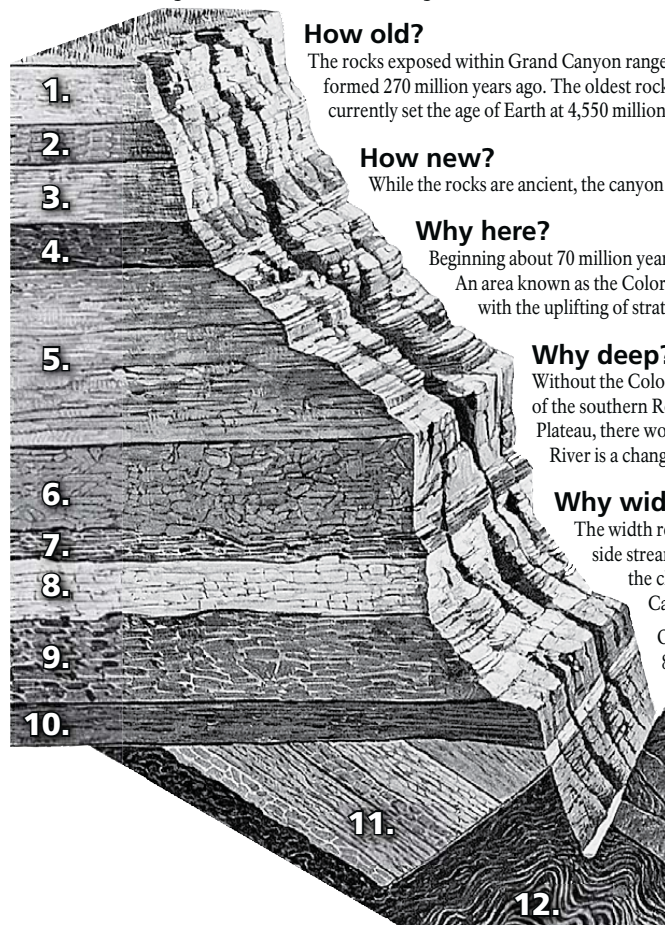
Legend

- Shuttle Bus Routes**
(Indicated in blue or orange)
- Shuttle Bus Stops**
(Indicated in blue or orange)
- Major Park Roads**
(All vehicles)
- Secondary Roads**
(All vehicles)
- Shuttle Buses Only**
- Parking**
- Picnic Tables**
- Paved Trails**
- Unpaved Trails**
- Distance between points on trails**

Not to scale. Check distances carefully.

Park Science

There's Only One Grand Canyon: Basic Answers to Your Geologic Questions



How old?

The rocks exposed within Grand Canyon range from the fairly young to the fairly old (geologically speaking). Kaibab limestone, the caprock on the rims of the canyon, formed 270 million years ago. The oldest rocks within the Inner Gorge at the bottom of Grand Canyon date to 1,840 million years ago. For comparison geologists currently set the age of Earth at 4,550 million years.

How new?

While the rocks are ancient, the canyon is young. Geologists generally agree that canyon carving occurred over the last 5–6 million years—a geologic blink of the eye.

Why here?

Beginning about 70 million years ago, heat and pressure generated by two colliding tectonic plates induced mountain building in western North America. An area known as the Colorado Plateau was raised more than 10,000 feet (3,000 m), but was spared most of the deformation and alteration associated with the uplifting of strata. This high plateau, so critical to Grand Canyon's story, is a geological puzzle that researchers still seek to understand.

Why deep?

Without the Colorado River, a perennial river in a desert environment, Grand Canyon would not exist. Water draining off the western slopes of the southern Rocky Mountains carried sand and gravel, cutting down through the layers of rock. Without the uplift of the Colorado Plateau, there would not have been the thousands of feet of topography to sculpt. From Yavapai Point on the South Rim to the Colorado River is a change of 4,600 feet (1,400 m), yet the river still flows 2,450 feet (750 m) above sea level.

Why wide?

The width results from the rock layers collapsing around the river and its tributaries combined with the "headward erosion" of these side streams. Softer, weaker layers erode faster, undermining the harder, stronger layers above them. Without adequate support, the cliffs collapse. The relentless river carries this eroded material to the Gulf of California. Much of what is now southeastern California and southwestern Arizona is covered with material eroded from Grand Canyon.

Over its 277 river miles (446 km), the jagged Grand Canyon varies in width. Along the South Rim, it ranges between 8 and 16 miles (13–26 km) depending upon where you choose to measure.

Why Grand?

Often described as Earth's greatest geological showcase, the ensemble of stunning dimensions—the melding of depth, width, and length—sets Grand Canyon apart. Nowhere else features such a dazzling variety of colorful rock layers, impressive buttes, and shadowed side canyons. Grand Canyon is the canyon against which all other canyons are compared.

The exhibits at Yavapai Geology Museum and the displays along the adjacent Trail of Time explain the geologic processes that formed the rocks and carved the canyon.

Illustration:

1. Kaibab Formation	270 million years
2. Toroweap Formation	273 million years
3. Coconino Sandstone	275 million years
4. Hermit Formation	280 million years
5. Supai Group	315–285 million years
6. Redwall Limestone	340 million years
7. Temple Butte Formation	385 million years
8. Muav Limestone	505 million years
9. Bright Angel Shale	515 million years
10. Tapeats Sandstone	525 million years
11. Grand Canyon Supergroup	1,200 million–740 million years
12. Vishnu basement rocks	1,840–1,680 million years

Want to know more?

The geologic story is rich in detail and mystery. Attending a free ranger program may move you from wonder to comprehension. Programs are described on pages 2–3.

Grand Canyon Association bookstores offer many geology related titles. Bookstore hours and locations are listed on page 5. To learn more about geology at Grand Canyon, take a look at:

- *Yardstick of Geologic Time*, Allyson Mathis
- *Introduction to Grand Canyon Geology*, Greer Price
- *Carving Grand Canyon*, Wayne Ranney
- *Ancient Landscapes of the Colorado Plateau*, Ron Blakey and Wayne Ranney

Park News

Volunteers Help Control Non-native Tamarisk

Tamarisk (*Tamarix ramosissima*), also known as salt cedar, is a non-native invasive tree found throughout riparian areas in the Southwest, including within Grand Canyon National Park. Tamarisk was introduced in the 19th century as an erosion control agent and for ornamental purposes and quickly spread throughout river basins replacing native vegetation. Tamarisk reached the Grand Canyon area in the 1930s and became dominant along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon following completion of Glen Canyon Dam in 1963.

The National Park Service and partners, beginning in 2002, have removed tamarisk in side canyons to protect the relatively pristine natural habitats. To date, project leaders and dedicated volunteers have removed more than 283,000 tamarisk trees from over 6,000 acres (2,400 ha). Volunteer crews, led by park biologists, backpack into remote side canyons, and remove the trees by pulling seedlings or cutting larger trees and by applying herbicide. Tamarisk control volunteer trips take place during the cooler months, between September and March, when hiking and working in the canyon is most enjoyable.

Grand Canyon is facing a new challenge in its management of tamarisk—the arrival of the tamarisk leaf beetle (*Diorhabda carinulata*).



These beetles, which feed specifically on tamarisk, were released in areas north of Grand Canyon as a biological control agent. This beetle needs long summer days to prompt egg-laying. Scientists thought that Grand Canyon was too far south to provide the required number of daylight hours, but the beetles are proving to be more adaptable than anticipated.

The tamarisk leaf beetle, first documented in Grand Canyon in August 2009, may have dramatic impacts on the canyon's complex riparian ecosystems, possibly defoliating and killing some tamarisk trees that now dominate the river corridor. Biologists documented defoliation of tamarisk along thirty miles of the Colorado River below Lees Ferry and in scattered areas below river mile 138 by the fall of 2010. A single cycle of defoliation does not kill the tamarisk, but death of individual trees may occur after four or five years of defoliation. The beetle will not completely eliminate the tamarisk as the beetle and the trees will achieve a new balance. This is another tool for the control of tamarisk in the park.

Resource scientists must now assess rapid changes to riparian habitats and may need to develop strategies to remove standing dead trees and determine how to successfully restore native plant communities. Resource managers are eager to expand current partnerships and develop new ones as they begin to formulate long-term plans to restore native ecosystems in the Colorado River corridor both within and outside park boundaries.



Grand Canyon National Park's vegetation program is looking for volunteers to assist with tamarisk management in the inner canyon (*above*) and with native plant restoration work and invasive plant removal on the North and South Rims. Volunteer opportunities range from single day projects to trips up to a week in length. To learn more, please visit www.volunteer.gov/gov or www.gcvolunteers.org.

Winter Hiking

Grand Canyon invites exploring on foot, even in the winter. The nearly level Rim Trail winds for miles with unfolding views framed by gnarled piñon and juniper around every corner. The trails descending into the canyon lead to warmer climes and adventures among the buttes and canyons.

Special Considerations

Temperatures moderate from cold winter mornings to mild afternoons. Storms move in quickly from the Pacific Coast bringing snow. Dress in layers to meet the variable conditions. Always take along hat, gloves, and a coat to protect you from wind or precipitation. Check the weather forecast before starting out. Winter days are short and the trails inviting. A flashlight or headlamp is handy in case you linger on the trail too long into the evening. Do not forget to eat and drink along the way. Keep your body well fueled. Most importantly, let someone know your plans and report back when you return. Day hikers do not need a permit, but overnight backpackers must obtain a backcountry permit before starting.

Rim Trail

The Rim Trail stretches from the South Kaibab Trailhead west to Hermits Rest, a distance of approximately thirteen miles (21 km). The section from South Kaibab Trail to Bright Angel Lodge (5 mi./8 km) is paved and presents only a few short sections with grades that exceed accessibility standards. Although the National Park Service attempts to plow snow from the trail as soon as possible after each storm, watch for snowy or icy spots. Several shuttle bus stops near this portion of the trail allow you to combine walking with a free shuttle bus ride back to your vehicle or lodging.

West of Bright Angel Lodge, the trail narrows and climbs the Bright Angel Fault to viewpoints along Hermit Road. It remains paved until Powell Point. The National Park Service trail crew maintains the Rim Trail, so the dirt tread is in excellent shape. Snow accumulates on the trail as it skirts Hopi Point hanging on the shady side of the canyon

A new multi-purpose trail stretches from the Monument Creek Vista shuttle bus stop on the west side of The Abyss to Hermit Point. This paved section accommodates hikers, bicyclists, and visitors using wheelchairs, following an older road alignment away from Hermit Road

and along the rim. Remember that the Hermits Rest shuttle does not operate during the winter.

Trails into the Canyon

Bright Angel and South Kaibab Trails remain the most popular paths into the canyon for hikers and mule riders. Day hike destinations include Mile-and-a-Half or Three-Mile Resthouses or Indian Garden (for experienced hikers) on the Bright Angel Trail and Ooh-Aah Point or Cedar Ridge on the South Kaibab Trail. Both trails descend north-facing walls of the canyon that accumulate snow and ice, becoming very treacherous. Instep crampons—small, pointed metal plates that attach to your boots (*below*)—increase your traction. Even the mules wear caulked shoes to provide a better grip on the ice. Instep crampons may be available at the Canyon Village Market general store.



Hikers on the South Kaibab Trail should ride the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus from the Grand Canyon Visitor Center to the trailhead. Private vehicles are not permitted on the road to the trailhead. The Bright Angel Trail starts behind the Bright Angel Lodge cabins

Hermit Trail at the end of Hermit Road leads to interesting destinations, but is narrower and less developed than the above trails. This trail may have less ice and snow, since it faces more westerly.

Always check on trail conditions before setting out on a hike. Talk with the rangers at the Backcountry Information Center or in the visitor centers. The bookstores feature many publications with trail descriptions. Winter hiking with fewer people and the natural quiet can be enjoyable or life threatening, depending on your preparation.

Superintendent's Greeting



Grand Canyon in the winter is a magical place. Winter storms leave the canyon rims frosted with snow. The brisk, crystalline air makes the canyon's buttes and shadowy depths appear closer. Best of all, you share this memory-making adventure with fewer fellow visitors.

Winter weather changes dramatically. On sunny days bundle up and walk the trails or experience the vistas from the many roadside overlooks. During stormy weather enjoy the view from inside the Yavapai Geology Museum or explore the art exhibits at Kolb Studio.

Construction continues in the Grand Canyon Visitor Center and Mather Point area. A theater is rising next to the visitor center. A new wheelchair friendly trail leads out onto Mather Point. Additional outside exhibits will highlight the plaza. Enjoy a sunrise or sunset from the new amphitheater just east of Mather Point. Please use caution around the construction areas.

Winter may present special challenges. Roads can be snowy or icy; drive carefully. Ice can coat the trails into the canyon. Hiking poles or instep crampons may be necessary for safe hiking. With proper preparation your winter visit can make life-long memories.

Steve Martin, Superintendent

Grand Canyon Association

Get involved and be a part of something grand!

The Grand Canyon Association is a nonprofit membership organization created to inspire and educate people to protect Grand Canyon National Park for the enjoyment of visitors and Grand Canyon enthusiasts around the world. Here is how you can get involved.

SHOP

You can learn more about Grand Canyon while helping the park by purchasing books and other items from Grand Canyon Association bookstores or online. Proceeds from sales benefit the educational, scientific, historical, and research efforts of the National Park Service. Members receive a 15% discount at all Grand Canyon Association bookstores and our online store: www.grandcanyon.org.

EXPLORE

The Grand Canyon Field Institute, the Grand Canyon Association's outdoor education program, provides great opportunities to learn about, volunteer in, and explore Grand Canyon. One of the most popular classes is *Meet the Canyon: A Family Hiking Adventure*, and you pick the date! For more information, call toll-free 866-471-4435 or visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute.

DONATE

When you become a member of the Grand Canyon Association, you join a community of people passionate about protecting and sharing the grandeur of Grand Canyon. With donor and member support, the Grand Canyon Association cooperates with the National Park Service to fund a variety of projects and programs—trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, support for the arts, and historic building preservation.

To become a member or to make a donation, call toll-free 800-858-2808 or www.grandcanyon.org.

Founded in 1932, the Grand Canyon Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

BE A PART OF SOMETHING GRAND

Help us protect one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.
Become a Grand Canyon Association member today!

www.grandcanyon.org
800-858-2808



GRAND CANYON ASSOCIATION
INSPIRE. EDUCATE. PROTECT.

National Park Service photo by Michael Quinn

Park Partners



Interagency Annual Pass

If you are a frequent visitor to National Park Service or other federal agency sites that charge entrance fees, you may be interested in the *America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass*. Five agencies—National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service—participate in the program. The \$80.00 pass is valid for one year from the time of first use. The program also offers a lifetime senior pass (\$10.00) for U.S. citizens 62 or over and a free access pass for citizens with permanent disabilities. The *America the Beautiful* pass may be purchased at entrance stations, Grand Canyon Association bookstores or online at www.recreation.gov. The senior and access passes are available only at entrance stations.

Wildlife Alert! Helps us keep our wildlife wild.

Winter snow and cold place demands on wildlife. Food becomes scarce, just as the need for body warmth increases. Many animals reduce their activity to conserve their energy resources. Some, like the rock squirrels, hibernate. If you approach deer and elk, they may flee, wasting precious energy. Always observe and photograph wildlife from a distance without disturbing them.



It is dangerous, and illegal, to feed wildlife in a national park. Animals may lose their fear of humans and become aggressive. Some may be struck by vehicles while searching for handouts.

Do not approach elk, deer, or other animals. Violators will be cited.



Xanterra South Rim's Environmental Commitment

Xanterra South Rim has raised the bar of environmental performance for ourselves and the tourism industry, by setting standards to improve our environmental performance. Our activities include:

1. Xanterra is one of the few U.S. hospitality companies to achieve ISO 14001 certification of its environmental management system (EMS). We call our EMS "**ecologix** – the logical integration of business and ecology."
2. In a move that decreases visible emissions from our tour buses by 66 percent and improves fuel economy by close to 20 percent, Xanterra maintains hydrous alcohol injectors (Hydrofire) and throttle controls (DriverMax) on our bus fleet. This is a practical way to reduce pollution in the park from our fleet of motor coaches powered by naturally-aspirated diesel engines. Each motor coach travels an average of 20,000 miles per year.
 - The Hydrofire hydrous alcohol injectors works with the fuel injection system to reduce nitrous oxide (NO_x) emissions (a contributor to acid rain and smog) and increase the efficiency of the bus
 - The DriverMax throttle controls the acceleration cycle by optimizing fuel flow and operating between the driver's foot throttle and the engine.
3. The recycling program in the park – which accepts a wide range of items commingled in the same bins – has helped increase the amount of trash we keep out of the landfill, raising the percentage from 10 percent to 40 percent. In the brown bins around the park (and the blue ones in our guest rooms), you can recycle paper (including newspaper), plastic bottles (#1 and #2), aluminum cans, glass, metal, and cardboard. We also recycle household batteries (ask at our Retail stores where to leave them).
4. Xanterra is one of only a few companies in the entire tourism industry to produce an environmental sustainability report, publicly disclosing the company's environmental performance. If you stay overnight in our facility, there will be a copy of this report in your room.
5. Xanterra is the first U.S. hospitality company to be granted "Chain of Custody" certification from the Marine Stewardship Council to serve only Alaskan wild salmon and to ban certain types of fish species deemed harmful to the environment.
6. Xanterra South Rim purchases renewable wind power equal to 5% of our total electricity usage. This purchase of almost 670,000 kWh is the equivalent of taking 81 cars off the road or planting 127 acres of trees.
7. If you're staying with us more than one night, please help conserve water by participating in our towel and linen reuse program. Just by rehangng your towel on the rack, our staff will know not to unnecessarily change towels or linens.

The National Park Service thanks these concessioners for support with this and other publications.

Xanterra South Rim

Xanterra South Rim, L.L.C. is the primary concessioner and the sole provider of in-park lodging at the South Rim. Owned and operated by Xanterra Parks & Resorts, we have been providing quality guest service since the El Tovar Hotel was opened in 1905 by the Fred Harvey Company. Today park visitors have a choice of accommodations in seven distinctly different Grand Canyon lodging properties. Additional services include gift stores, restaurants and in-park tours.

As the nation's largest national and state park management company, we know that we play an integral part in the tourism industry and how it impacts the natural environment. This is why we are a company based upon values that reflect an environmental ethic and social conscience for the long term. We have taken the lead in this calling and have implemented comprehensive and broad-based environmental initiatives throughout all of our operations. Please join us in these efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle during your visit to this special place. For more information call (928) 638-2631 or visit www.grandcanyonlodges.com.



Xanterra South Rim, LLC.—We're not just close, we're there!

DNC Parks & Resorts

DNC Parks & Resorts at Grand Canyon (DNC) operates the General Stores in the park at Desert View and Grand Canyon Village under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its associates to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure and to be good stewards of its special places in which we operate. For more information please contact us at (928) 638-2262.



Forever Resorts

Forever Resorts operates the Grand Canyon Lodge, restaurants, retail, gift and convenience stores, service station, and Grand Canyon Cookout Experience on the North Rim under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. Forever Resorts trains and encourages employees to foster a sense of awareness and stewardship in park visitors through an appreciation of park resources. For information on Grand Canyon North Rim Lodge, visit online at www.GrandCanyonForever.com.



FOREVER
RESORTS

Lodging and Services



Lodging

In the Park–South Rim

For same-day reservations, call (928) 638-2631.
For advance reservations, call (888) 297-2757
or write:

Xanterra Parks & Resorts
6312 South Fiddlers Green Circle, Suite 600N
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

www.grandcanyonlodges.com

All prices are subject to change.

Bright Angel Lodge

On the rim. \$69–174

El Tovar Hotel

On the rim. \$174–426

Kachina Lodge

On the rim. \$170–180

Thunderbird Lodge

On the rim. \$170–180

Maswik Lodge

West end of village. \$90–170

Yavapai Lodge

Market Plaza. \$107–153

Phantom Ranch

Located at the bottom of the canyon.
Overnight dormitory and cabin space. Advance
reservations are required. Call for prices (see
above) or inquire at the Transportation Desks in
Bright Angel, Maswik, or Yavapai Lodges.

North Rim

North Rim opens for the season May 15, 2011.

Grand Canyon Lodge

Make reservations by calling (877) 386-4383 or
www.foreverresorts.com

Outside the Park–Tusayan, AZ

Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn

(800) 937-8376 or (928) 638-2681

Canyon Plaza Resort

(800) 995-2521 or (928) 638-2673

Grand Hotel

(888) 634-7263 or (928) 638-3333

Holiday Inn Express

(888) 473-2269 or (928) 638-3000

Red Feather Lodge

(866) 561-2425 or (928) 638-2414



Camping

In the Park–South Rim

Camping is permitted only in designated
campsites in Grand Canyon National Park.

Mather Campground

Operated by the National Park Service. No
hook-ups are available, but there is a dump
station. Maximum vehicle length: 30 feet.
Campsites are self-serve during the winter.
Drive through, pick a site, and register at the
automated machine at the campground office.
\$15.00 per night; \$8.00 for Senior or Access Pass
holders. Group sites \$30.00; horse camp \$20.00.
Cash or credit cards accepted.

For advance reservations at other times of the
year (up to six months in advance) contact
Reserve America at (877) 444-6777 or visit
www.recreation.gov.

Trailer Village

Pull-through sites with hookups are located
next to Mather Campground. \$32.00 per site per
night for two people; \$2.00 for each additional
person over age 16. Campers may register at
the entrance to Trailer Village. Reservations
through Xanterra Parks & Resorts. For same-
day reservations, call (928) 638-2631. See
advance reservation contact information in
adjacent column.

Desert View Campground

Located near the East Entrance, 25 miles (40 km)
east of Grand Canyon Village. Closed for the
season; opens mid-May.

Outside the Park

Camper Village

Commercial campground located one mile
(1.6 m) south of park entrance in the town of
Tusayan. Hookups, coin-operated showers,
laundry, propane, dump station, and store are
available year round. Call (928) 638-2887 or
(800) 638-2887.

www.grandcanyoncampervillage.com

Ten-X Campground

Operated by Kaibab National Forest. Located
two miles south of Tusayan. Closed for the
season; campground opens May 1.
Information: (928) 638-2443.



Dining

Listed west to east along the rim.

Hermits Rest Snack Bar

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Maswik Cafeteria

In Maswik Lodge at the west end of the village.
Open daily 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Maswik Pizza Pub Noon – 11:00 p.m.
Facility closed January 2 – April 15

Bright Angel Restaurant

In Bright Angel Lodge. Open daily.
Breakfast: 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Lunch: 11:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30 – 10:00 p.m.
Lounge: 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Bright Angel Coffee House

Located in the Bright Angel Lodge.
Open daily 5:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Bright Angel Fountain

On the rim in Bright Angel Lodge
Open December 25 – January 2.
Reopens February 12 weekends only weather
permitting.

The Arizona Room

On the rim in Bright Angel Lodge.
Reservations are not accepted.
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Closed January 3 – February 10.

El Tovar Dining Room

Located on the rim. Open daily.
Breakfast: 6:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Dinner: 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Dinner reservations are required:

(928) 638-2631 ext. 6432.
Lounge: 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Canyon Village Deli

The Deli is in Canyon Village Market.
Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day.

Yavapai Cafeteria

Located at Market Plaza.
Open daily beginning December 24:
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Desert View Trading Post Snackbar

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Groceries

Canyon Village Market

The General Store is located in Market Plaza.
Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day.

Desert View Marketplace

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day.



Books and Gifts

Listed west to east along the rim.

Hermits Rest 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Grand Canyon Village area

Maswik Gift Shop 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Closed January 3 through February 28

Kolb Studio 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Lookout Studio 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Bright Angel 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

El Tovar 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Hours may change due to Maswik closing

Hopi House 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Verkamp's Visitor Center
..... 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Yavapai Curio
Starting December 24 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Yavapai Geology Museum
..... 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Books & More near Grand Canyon Visitor
Center 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Desert View area

Tusayan Museum 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Desert View Visitor Center
..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Desert View Trading Post
..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Desert View Watchtower
..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Watchtower stairs close 30 minutes before
store closing.

Services

Medical

24-Hour emergency care dial 911
From hotel rooms dial **9-911**

North Country Grand Canyon Clinic
Monday–Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
(928) 638-2551

Services

Laundry and Showers

Located near Mather Campground.
Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Last laundry load 4:45 p.m.

Chase Bank and ATM

At Market Plaza. 24-hour ATM.
Monday–Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Accepts travelers checks and major credit cards.
(928) 638-2437.
ATM also available in Maswik Lodge lobby.

Post Office

At Market Plaza. (928) 638-2512
Monday–Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Kennels

Open daily: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (928) 638-0534
For retrieval after 5:00 p.m., contact Fire and Safety: (928) 638-2631.

Lost and Found

For items lost or found in hotels or restaurants, call: (928) 638-2631. For all other lost items call: (928) 638-7798. Take found items to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center or Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Garage Services

Located east of the train depot at the east end of the Xanterra General Offices. Open daily 8:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Provides basic emergency repairs; tow service to Williams or Flagstaff. After hours emergency service available. (928) 638-2631

Child Day Care

Day care of infants through 12 years old is offered by **Kaibab Learning Center** on a space available basis. Immunization records must be provided. Open: Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (928) 638-6333 for more information.

Tours & River Trips

Air Tours

Fixed-wing and helicopter tours originate daily from Grand Canyon Airport. A list of air tour operators is available upon request at visitor centers or consult the local telephone directory.

Bus Tours

Tours within the park to Desert View and Hermits Rest, as well as sunrise and sunset tours, are available daily. Contact any transportation desk (*next column*) or call (928) 638-2631.

Mule Trips

Two-day trips into the canyon to Phantom Ranch depart each morning. A three-hour forest ride to The Abyss overlook departs once daily. Call (928) 638-2631 ext. 6015 or contact the Bright Angel Lodge Transportation Desk for information. www.grandcanyonlodges.com

Horse Rides

Apache Stables at the north end of Tusayan is closed for the season. For information and reservations call (928) 638-2891.

Smooth-Water Raft Trips

Half-day and all-day trips on the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry are provided by **Colorado River Discovery** from March 1 to November 30. (888) 522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com.

Hiking and Backpacking

Grand Canyon Field Institute (GCFI) offers a wide variety of educational programs throughout the park. Expert instructors who share the wonder of Grand Canyon with participants of all ages and backgrounds lead these single- and multi-day classes. For more information call (866) 471-4435 or visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute. GCFI is a program of the nonprofit Grand Canyon Association.

Transportation

Transportation Desks

Information about Phantom Ranch facilities, mule trips, horseback riding, air tours, one-day float trips, and motorcoach tours (including wheelchair-accessible tours) is available in the following lodge lobbies. Call (928) 638-2631, ext. 6015.

Maswik Lodge

Hours vary seasonally

Bright Angel

Hours vary seasonally

Yavapai Lodge

Hours vary seasonally

Railroad

Grand Canyon Railway offers service between Williams, Arizona, and Grand Canyon. Call (800) THE-TRAIN for information and reservations. www.thetrain.com

Taxi Service

Service is available to the Grand Canyon Airport, trailheads, and other destinations. Daily 24-hour service. (928) 638-2631, ext. 6563.

Rim to Rim Shuttle

Closed for the season. Daily round-trip transportation between the North Rim and South Rim is provided by **Transcanyon Shuttle**. One trip each way daily. Reservations required: (928) 638-2820. Service resumes May 15, 2011.

Shuttle Service

Arizona Shuttle provides shuttle service between Flagstaff and Grand Canyon twice daily, also serving Phoenix and Tucson as well as other locations in northern Arizona.

Arizona Shuttle

(877) 226-8060 or (928) 226-8060
www.arizonashuttle.com

Arizona Highway Information

511 or (888) 411-ROAD
www.az511.gov



Religious Services

Religious services are offered in the park and the nearby community. Current schedules are posted at Mather Campground (near the check-in station), Shrine of the Ages, the information kiosk near the post office, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Gary Bishop, Branch President. (928) 638-3227

El Cristo Rey Roman Catholic
Father Michael Reinhardt, (928) 638-2390

Grand Canyon Assembly of God
Brian and Debbie Fulthorp, Pastors. (928) 707-2904

Grand Canyon Baptist Church
Rick Wiles, Pastor. (928) 638-0757

Grand Canyon Community Church
(Christian Ministry in the National Parks)
Patrick Dotson, Pastor. (928) 638-2340

Jehovah's Witnesses (Tusayan)
Borden Miller, (928) 635-4166

Jewish Services and Programs
Rabbi Nina Perlmutter, (928) 777-8172

Available in Tusayan

Grand Canyon Wild West Experience
Museum (fee) open 10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
..... (928) 638-0333

IMAX Theater (928) 638-4629
Movie shown every hour on the half hour
10:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Kaibab National Forest
Tusayan Ranger District (928) 638-2443

News and Weather
KNAU Radio FM 90.3

Hualapai Skywalk

The Hualapai Skywalk is on the Hualapai Indian Reservation, not in Grand Canyon National Park. The Skywalk is at the west end of Grand Canyon approximately 250 miles from the South Rim. Stop by any NPS visitor center for a brochure with a map.

The Skywalk is a Hualapai Tribal business. For information or to make reservations: (888) 868-9378 or (928) 769-2219 or www.grandcanyonwest.com.

South Rim including Desert View



Desert View Services

Chevron Service Station	Fuel available 24 hours with credit card all year
Desert View Marketplace	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Christmas Day
Desert View Visitor Center	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Trading Post Gift Shop and Snackbar	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Watchtower Gift Shop	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Watchtower stairs	Close 30 minutes before gift shop
Desert View Campground	Closed; reopens mid-May

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Canyon National Park
Post Office Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023



For the latest information updates, visit the Grand Canyon National Park web site at: www.nps.gov/grca/

The National Park Service publishes *The Guide* in cooperation with the Grand Canyon Association. Printed by Arizona Daily Sun on recycled paper, using soy-based inks.

Experience Your America

Desert View Drive Highlights



Viewpoints along the way to Desert View provide the opportunity to explore and experience these vast and intimate spaces. Pick up a brochure from distribution box near the Desert View parking lot. Explore the area; discover the rich human history.

The Watchtower Mary Colter gained inspiration through her travels in the Southwest for this impressive building. Climb the 85 steps to reach the highest point on the South Rim and enjoy the 360° view.

River Views Drive to Lipan Point to see miles of the Colorado River flowing through the canyon. This is a good viewpoint to enjoy sunrises and sunsets.

Ancient Cultures A visit to Tusayan Ruin and Museum provides you the opportunity to imagine what life was like hundreds of years ago and to learn about current tribes that consider the canyon sacred.

Geology Notice the arching rise of the Kaibab Plateau viewed across the canyon from Navajo Point. The bright red layer seen across the canyon from Moran Point is part of the of the Grand Canyon Supergroup rocks, exposed in only a few locations.

North Rim



The average distance across Grand Canyon “as the raven flies” is ten miles (16 km). Traveling from the South Rim to the North Rim by automobile, however, requires a five-hour drive of 215 miles (346 km).

During the winter months, Highway 67 to the North Rim is closed at Jacob Lake, Arizona. Lodging and camping at the North Rim are available from mid-May to mid-October. Reservations are strongly recommended. Additional facilities are available in the surrounding Kaibab National Forest, the Kaibab Lodge area, and Jacob Lake.

A separate edition of *The Guide* is published for the North Rim. Ask at any NPS visitor center for a copy.